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IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 28 February 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to refer to the recent developments in Iraq's position in regard to withdrawal from Kuwaiti territory and, in particular, the statement made by the Iraqi President on 26 February, concerning Iraq's alleged historical claims to Kuwait, from which I quote:

"Circumstances today have willed that Kuwait, which is part of your country and was carved from it in the past, shall remain in the state in which it will be after the withdrawal of our holy warriors from it. It hurts you that this should happen.

We remember the day of the call, when it was decided that the gates of Kuwait should be one of the main gates to deter the conspiracy and defend Iraq as a whole from the conspirators. We say that we recalled Kuwait on the great day of the call, and on the days that followed it, in documents and events, some of which date back more than 70 years.

The Iraqis will remember and will never forget that, on 8 August 1990, Kuwait became part of Iraq legally, constitutionally and in actual fact, and that it remained so throughout the period from 8 August 1990 until last night, when withdrawal began, and today we will complete the withdrawal of our forces, God willing.

Today, special circumstances made the Iraqi army withdraw as a result of the developments which we mentioned, including the combined aggression by 30 countries and their odious embargo, in the evil and aggressive pursuit of which they were led by the machine and the criminal entity of America and its principal allies.

Everyone will remember that the gates of Constantinople did not open to the Muslims in the first tentative phase of their holy war."

At the very time when it is affirming its resolve to withdraw from Kuwait and to apply resolution 660 (1990), the Iraqi leadership is also reaffirming its alleged historical claims to Kuwait and, in actual fact, is merely seeking a cease-fire.

I would be grateful if you would kindly have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 153, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad A. ABULHASAN
Permanent Representative